REPORT

Of the Committee of Ways and Means on the petition of Barnard Thooft; with a bill for his relief.

JANUARY 16, 1824.

Read, and, with the bill, committed to a committee of the whole House to-morrow.

The Committee of Ways and Means, to whom was referred the petition of Barnard Thooft, of the city of New-York,

REPORT:

That, in May last, the petitioner exported a quantity of coffee from New York to Amsterdam, for the benefit of drawback. All the formalities of the law were complied with, excepting the execution of the bond for exportation, which was not executed within the twenty

days required by law.

It appears to the committee that the petitioner called at the custom house on three several days within the period, for the purpose of executing bond, but at no time did he find the returns made by the inspectors, or the officers ready to complete the business: that the petioner also called a fourth time at the custom house, on the 13th June, within the period of twenty days, and was again prevented from executing the bond by the engagements of the custom house officers, and that he was then taken sick, and confined to his house until after the expiration of the legal period.

Under these circumstances, the committee are persuaded that the petitioner used ordinary diligence to comply with the law, and that the omission to execute the bond may be fairly attributed to accidents beyond his control, or otherwise excusable; and they therefore report

a bill.

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